

B2 26. (Amended) The guide wire of claim 22 wherein the coil extends along the length of the core from the portion of the core near [the] a proximal end of the core to distal of the distal portion of the core [a portion of the core near a distal end of the core].

--28. The guide wire of claim 22 wherein the second material comprises stainless steel.

29. The guide wire of claim 22 wherein the second material comprises a precipitation hardenable alloy.

30. The guide wire of claim 22 wherein the distal portion of the core is tapered.

B3 sub 31. The guide wire of claim 22 further comprising a tip bonded to the distal end of the coil and comprising a polymeric material.

32. The guide wire of claim 31 wherein the tip includes a radio-opaque material.

sub D2 33. The guide wire of claim 22 wherein the coil comprises a pitch that varies along the length of the core.

REMARKS

Applicants note initially that an official filing receipt has not been received from the Patent Office, and Applicants thus request a filing receipt. Also, enclosed with this Amendment and Response is an Associate Power of Attorney. An Information Disclosure Statement also is enclosed, listing and enclosing all references from the following related patent applications: (1) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/078,946; and (2) International Patent Application No. PCT/US99/10673.